



Focus

Washington State and U.S. Forest Service's Forest Management Agreement

Purpose

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have reached a landmark agreement to repair, maintain, and close federal forest roads to better protect water quality. National Forests that are within the State of Washington include Olympic, Gifford Pinchot, Mount Baker- Snoqualmie, Wenatchee, Okanogan, Colville, and Umatilla.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is aimed at improving water quality for people and fish. Forest roads are the most significant contributor to water quality degradation in the forests, which is why the most significant element of the agreement is an aggressive commitment to a road maintenance schedule that mirrors the requirements of the 1999 Forests and Fish state legislation.

How do forest roads affect water quality?

Since the downturn in logging revenues in 1979, USFS funding has been limited for road maintenance. Lack of funding has resulted in an increase in road-related water quality problems.

When forest roads crumble and wash out, dirt, rocks, and mud slide into streams and cover up fish habitat and spawning areas. Washed out roads may also cause floods, increase water temperature and turbidity, and deposit sediments into the water. This has created the ultimate effect of water quality that does not meet the needs of people or fish whether upstream or downstream.

Elements of the National Forest Management Agreement

As the manager of national forests, the agreement spells out the USFS's responsibilities to manage its lands and activities to meet or exceed state water quality standards. These standards are set to protect Washington's waters for fish habitat, drinking, and other uses. As the state's environmental agency, the agreement directs Ecology to ensure the USFS complies with the agreement.

The agreement is patterned after the Forests and Fish legislation for state and private forests in Washington. The MOA ensures that the management of roads on federal forests will match the requirements that state and private forests are held to in Washington State.

Prevention is a key element of the agreement. Clearly, prevention is far more effective and less costly than restoration or repair. The MOA addresses remedies for those places where problems have already occurred, but it also emphasizes steps to reduce the potential for further road failures.

What will the USFS do with their roads?

The USFS will develop road maintenance and abandonment plans for all federal forest roads within five years and fully implement those plans within 15 years. It is important to point out that the agreement emphasizes on-the-ground work now – during the first year, road maintenance work will begin on known problems and not wait for more comprehensive plans to be completed.

Road stabilization efforts will begin immediately. Stabilization means putting a road into a stable condition that is low maintenance and in a condition where the pollution is reduced to protect water quality and fish habitat. Stabilization activities include grading and shaping roads, taking out roadside ditches and other work that will reduce pollution.

In the long term, all roads will be completely stabilized and maintained to meet or exceed state water quality standards by no later than 2015.

More about the Forests and Fish legislation

Forests and Fish is a science-based plan to protect water quality and fish habitat on private forestland in Washington State. Governor Gary Locke signed the Forest and Fish law in 1999. The plan strengthened Washington's forest practices laws and brought them into compliance with both the federal Clean Water and Endangered Species acts. The legislation – which is a biologically sound plan to protect water quality and salmon – gives Washington State the greatest level of fish habitat protection in the U.S. from forest practice activities.

The plan includes the development of wider areas of no-cut buffers or areas where trees and shrubs cannot be cut along streams. It also establishes strict new standards for road construction and maintenance to keep dirt and mud out of streams. The plan directs state and private landowners to develop road maintenance and abandonment plans by 2005, and to fully implement those plans by 2015.

Why is this such a big deal, and does it cost money?

This agreement does cost money. Congress currently allocates less than 20 percent of the funding necessary for the USFS to adequately maintain its roads. Nationally, the USFS faces an \$8.4 billion backlog in road maintenance and reconstruction. The decades of unmaintained roads has a staggering price tag of \$50 million for the Olympic National Forest alone. The MOA helps provide focus and establishes a USFS commitment to improve the conditions that currently exist and search out funding sources.

Ecology is committed to working with members of the U.S. Congress to address the critical need for additional funding for road maintenance work in order to improve and protect water quality.

For More Information:

For further information about the overall agreement, contact:

Helen Bresler, Department of Ecology, PO Box 47600, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7600,
(360) 407-6180, hbre461@ecy.wa.gov

For further information about the road maintenance specifics of the agreement, contact:

Mark Bentley, Department of Ecology, PO Box 47775, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7775,
(360) 407-7269, mabe461@ecy.wa.gov

For further information about the overall agreement, contact:

Al Matecko, U.S. Forest Service, Public & Legislative Affairs Director, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3623, (503) 808-2240, amatecko@fs.fed.us

Ecology is an equal opportunity agency. If you have special accommodation needs, please call Donna Lynch at (360) 407-7529 (Voice) or (360) 407-6006 (TDD). E-mail may be sent to dlyn461@ecy.wa.gov

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
between the
USDA FOREST SERVICE, REGION 6
and the
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
for
MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE WATER QUALITY LAWS

This MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (hereafter referred to as "MOA"), together with Attachment A and documents referenced in Attachment B, is entered into by and between the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (hereinafter referred to as the Forest Service) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (hereinafter referred to as Ecology). This MOA represents the "Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region Water Quality Management Plan for Washington State." The Forest Service and Ecology agree that this MOA is the implementation plan for execution of this agreement and is a priority within their organizations. Timely implementation will prevent duplication of effort and provide coordination to meet Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) requirements and the goals of both agencies. The Forest Service and Ecology recognize that financial appropriations over which the agencies do not have total control are necessary to support these management commitments.

Nothing in this statewide MOA shall preclude individual National Forests from entering into agreements with Ecology regional offices to meet specific local needs. Any such local MOA shall fit within the parameters of this statewide MOA.

1. PURPOSE

The purposes of this MOA are to:

- 1.1 Recognize through this agreement that the Forest Service is the Designated Management Agency for meeting CWA requirements on National Forest System (NFS) lands. The Forest Service will ensure that all waters on NFS lands meet or exceed water quality laws and regulations and that activities on those lands are consistent with the level of protection of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) relevant to state and federal water quality requirements.
- 1.2 Attain joint Ecology and Forest Service commitment to the responsibilities to be performed by each agency to accomplish water quality protection, management, and restoration on National Forest System (NFS) lands within the state of Washington.
- 1.3 Identify Forest Service policy, programs, and practices that assure attainment of CWA requirements of:
 - A. CWA Section 303 (Water quality laws and regulations and implementation plans).
 - B. CWA Section 313 (Federal facilities pollution control).
 - C. CWA Sections 319(b)(2)(f) and 319(k) (Nonpoint source management program) as amended in 1987 (PL-100-4), and Washington's Plan to Control Nonpoint Pollution.
 - D. Executive Order 13148 Greening the Government through Leadership in Environmental Management.

- E. Clean Water Action Plan (CWAP) of 1998.
- 1.4 Encourage and enhance communication, coordination and working relationships between Ecology and the Forest Service, and lay out a process for dispute resolution.

2. AUTHORITIES

- 2.1 The U.S. Congress assigned the Forest Service the responsibility for managing the NFS lands. Forest Service cooperation and coordination with Ecology is consistent with that legislation.
- 2.2 The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) delegated implementation of the CWA to the states. In the state of Washington, Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) gives Ecology authority and responsibility to protect and manage water quality.
- 2.3 Section 303(d) of the CWA lists water bodies and outlines a program for addressing water body segments having limitations on their quality that preclude them from meeting or exceeding standards designated for beneficial uses. These include both point and nonpoint sources. The Forest Service, as a Designated Management Agency, is responsible for addressing water bodies within NFS lands. Ecology is the lead agency for development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for 303(d) listed waterbodies.
- 2.4 Section 313 of the CWA requires the Forest Service to adhere to the goals set forth in the state surface water quality laws and regulations in the same manner and to the same extent as any nongovernmental entity.
- 2.5 Section 319 of the CWA requires states to develop nonpoint source pollution management programs to qualify for Federal grants to control nonpoint source pollution. This MOA is a component of that program.
- 2.6 An important component of the state surface water quality laws and regulations is the concept that nonpoint source pollution is best controlled by land use practices designed to prevent and mitigate water quality impacts. Best Management Practices (BMPs) for forest management on non-federal lands are codified in the state Forest Practices Rules (WAC 222). Rules marked with an asterisk are agreed to by Ecology because they pertain to water quality (see WAC 222-12-010 and RCW 90.48.420). BMPs are recognized as the primary mechanism to control nonpoint source pollution on NFS lands, and are prepared by the Forest Service as part of Forest Land Management Plans (LMP) and project level plans. Activities on National Forests are expected to meet or exceed the requirements that apply to non-federal lands. BMPs are also recognized as the primary mechanism to control nonpoint source pollution from activities such as recreation, mining, fish, wildlife and watershed restoration, livestock grazing, fire suppression, and other land management activities.

3. EXISTING POLICIES AND DIRECTION

- 3.1 Forest Service and Ecology recognize the contribution of existing direction, standards, and allocations included in: Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP); Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem

Management Project (ICBEMP); Implementation of Interim Strategies for Managing Anadromous Fish-producing Watersheds in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, and portions of California (PACFISH); Interim Strategies for Managing Fish-Producing Watersheds in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, Western Montana, and portions of Nevada (INFISH); and Forest Service National Roads Management Policy.

- 3.2 Both agencies recognize the need to repair existing fish passage problems at road crossings and commit to assessing needs and implementing remediation of passage problems within the 15 year time frame used to implement WAC 222. Existing policy and direction is to repair fish passage problems currently limiting life stages of fish and which offer beneficial habitat gain. Near-term emphasis will be on the repair of crossings within and into key watersheds that restrict passage of multiple life stages of anadromous and resident salmonid species, including bull trout.

4. MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Cooperation and Problem Solving

Forest Service and Ecology will seek opportunities to coordinate and collaborate on management activities involving monitoring, water quality planning, and restoration with recognition that other agencies and tribes have a high level of interest and involvement in these efforts. The agencies will conduct joint reviews of project implementation areas with field staff to determine if BMPs are being implemented and if management effort [e.g., Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQPR), BMPs, etc.] are effective in protecting water quality. Ecology will take into consideration the objectives of other agencies and groups with whom the Forest Service must coordinate its efforts.

4.2 Roads: Collaborative Development and Implementation

Forest Service and Ecology agree that roads can be a significant component for addressing CWA needs. Both agencies will collaborate on the following key elements for road activities under this MOA:

- A. Develop a prioritization process for road maintenance and stabilization activities. This process will include consideration of Key watersheds, 303(d) listed water bodies, and watersheds with Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species. On-going efforts such as the Unified Watershed Assessment (UWA) and Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (WRAS), and federal salmon and bull trout restoration strategies, as specified in the NWFP and interim Pacfish-Infish-Biological Opinions, and state and federal recovery plans for listed species, will be considered in determination of high priority activities.
- B. Review pre-established priorities for resource protection and road maintenance and stabilization on an annual basis at the statewide joint meeting.
- C. Document achievement of the milestones and timelines included in Attachment A.

4.3 Preparation of Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRPs) and TMDLs

Forest Service and Ecology will collaborate in addressing 303(d) listed waterbodies. The Forest Service mechanism is outlined in the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Protocol for Addressing Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listed Waters. Collaboration will include both point and nonpoint sources of pollution. Forest Service and Ecology ascribe to the Forests and Fish Report, Appendix M Assurances and Schedule M-2 Clean Water Act Section 303 Assurances. This report states that TMDL allocations for impaired waters caused by forest practices are a low priority for development. However, Forest Service and Ecology recognize that it may be of mutual benefit to move forward with the collaborative development of TMDLs.

In the development of TMDLs, both agencies recognize the inherent limitation of models in development of load allocations given the natural variation and the complex nature of watersheds. Both agencies are committed to emphasizing meaningful implementation of on-the-ground solutions rather than “precise” modeling.

Forest Service developed WQRPs will be sent to the appropriate Ecology regional office and to Ecology headquarters for review and a determination of whether plan implementation is expected to result in meeting or exceeding state water quality laws and regulations. Ecology will provide an expeditious review and comments on WQRPs, but the Forest Service may implement activities consistent with a WQRP prior to formal approval of the plan by Ecology.

Where mutually agreed to, the Forest Service will develop TMDLs on National Forest System lands for submission to Ecology. Ecology will review these TMDLs and submit to EPA for review and approval.

4.4 Annual Meeting

Staff from the Forest Service and Ecology headquarters will meet at least annually to provide a forum for communication and to foster adaptive management. Ecology’s Water Quality Program Manager (or designee) will initiate contact with the Forest Service Region 6 representative to set this meeting. Other governmental agencies will be invited to the annual meeting with agreement from both the Forest Service and Ecology. Suggested topics for the annual meeting include:

- A. “Annual Forest Reports” for each National Forest.
- B. Accomplishment of milestones within Attachment A, activities planned for implementation for the current year, and development of activities for the upcoming two years.
- C. Forest Service and Ecology watershed planning efforts related to roads, water quality, watershed condition and endangered species recovery.
- D. §303(d) listings.

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- E. WQRPs and TMDLs on NFS and adjacent lands, and discussion and agreement of lead for plan development.
- F. Monitoring programs and results.
- G. Review of Forest Service BMP implementation and effectiveness, with emphasis on successes and areas needing improvement in meeting water quality laws and regulations.
- H. Review new BMPs presented and discussed during the Annual Meeting, including adaptive management under Forests and Fish Report, and new Forest Service initiatives, for subsequent certification by Ecology.
- I. Review Forest Service activities to ensure water quality laws and regulations and requirements of Washington's Water Quality Management Plan to Control Nonpoint Pollution are being met.
- J. Joint public involvement for appropriate projects.
- K. Restoration funding priorities, with full recognition of priority criteria from other local, state, and federal agencies.
- L. Updated contact lists.
- M. Other topics as mutually agreed to and needed for coordination.

Ecology will certify new BMPs identified during the annual meeting. The timing and mechanism for certification will be negotiated between both parties.

4.5 **Adaptive Management**

Ecology and the Forest Service will continuously evaluate the effectiveness of their efforts and will share information from studies about forest practices so as to refine and adapt best management practices to obtain the best results for water quality and beneficial uses.

5. FOREST SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 The Forest Service will manage NFS lands to protect and maintain water quality so that water quality laws and regulations are met or exceeded, and will restore water-quality-limited water bodies within its jurisdiction to conditions that meet or surpass standards designated for beneficial uses. The Forest Service will maintain and restore water quality and watershed condition using an ecosystem approach on a watershed scale. The Forest Service will:
 - A. Implement site specific BMPs as specified in Forest Service R6 General Water Quality Best Management Practices document, and standards and guides within the NWFP, PACFISH, INFISH, ICBEMP, or other final direction that replaces interim guidance for the eastside of Washington to protect water quality and beneficial uses, and to meet or

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exceed the requirements of the CWA and state water quality laws and regulations, as contained in the state Forest Practices Rules (WAC 222).

- B. Stabilize and maintain all roads on NFS lands to a level that meets the objectives established for roads in WAC 222-24-010 and following the implementation schedule in Attachment A. This MOA does not cover county roads, state roads, federal highways, or other roads on NFS lands for which the Forest Service does not have jurisdiction. Areas of jurisdiction will be clarified in annual meetings. Any needed clarifications may result in amendments to this MOA.
- C. Complete an assessment of water quality effects generated by roads. This assessment could use the roads analysis process as outlined in the forthcoming Forest Service National Roads Management Policy, or separate assessment dealing solely with water quality. This analysis will identify issues, assess benefits, problems, safety, and risks associated with the road system, and describe actions and priorities for resolution.
- D. Conduct monitoring as required in Forest Plans and WQRPs, in consultation with Ecology, to track the implementation of BMPs and their effectiveness in meeting water quality laws and regulations.
- E. Take appropriate corrective action to remedy instances where state water quality laws and regulations are being violated on the NFS lands. Notify the appropriate Ecology regional office when water quality problems are noted on or near lands or waterbodies administered by the Forest Service. Take appropriate “first response actions” in accordance with expertise and training, and notify local, state, and/or federal agencies with jurisdiction in an emergency situation (such as a spill).
- F. Coordinate with Ecology in development and implementation of WQRPs and CWAP activities.
- G. Prepare an annual forest report for each National Forest that describes accomplishment of activities including water quality monitoring information, WQRP activities, road-related and other watershed restoration accomplishments, and fish passage status report to address Attachment A. Forest Service MOA Responsible Official will submit annual Forest Service reports that include proposed road related schedule of proposed actions and accomplishments to the Ecology MOA Responsible Official with a copy sent to respective Ecology regional offices.
- H. Utilize information included in such documents as Washington State’s UWA and WRAS, Forest Service National Roads Management Policy and Analyses, Aquatic Conservation Strategies, Watershed Analyses, and state and federal recovery plans to focus road stabilization activities. Participate in local watershed planning efforts in order to maximize opportunities for joint funding of projects with local, state, tribal, and federal entities.

- I. Assist with updates to Ecology's list of priority basins for water quality, the UWA and WRAS for program prioritization.

6. ECOLOGY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Ecology is the lead agency responsible for ensuring that CWA requirements are met. Ecology will review Forest Service planning and implementation activities to ensure that water quality laws and regulations are being met or exceeded. Ecology will:
 - A. Coordinate with the Forest Service on CWAP activities including development of WQRPs.
 - B. Coordinate with the Forest Service to facilitate public participation in preparation of TMDLs developed for public ownership watersheds.
 - C. Develop TMDLs for impaired waterbodies, or review and comment on Forest Service prepared TMDLs for submission to EPA, following acceptance by Ecology.
 - D. Work with EPA on appropriate listing and delisting of waterbodies on the 303(d) list, including waterbodies where TMDLs have been implemented. If effectiveness monitoring detects a downward trend despite implementation of all elements of the WQRP, Ecology will work with the Forest Service to re-evaluate the elements and add any additional requirements to arrest the trend and meet water quality objectives.
 - E. Participate in monitoring efforts with Forest Service and other appropriate state and federal natural resource management agencies in preparation of monitoring plans, implementation of monitoring efforts and sharing of data and findings on a timely basis.
 - F. Provide technical assistance to the Forest Service, as appropriate. This assistance may include review and input on National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) activities and documents, and input to interdisciplinary teams to help identify and develop alternatives and mitigation measures for proposed land management activities.
 - G. Notify local Forest Service offices of water quality problems noted on NFS lands and coordinate with the responsible Forest Service officials to obtain appropriate corrective action when management activities (past or present) result in lack of attainment of conditions specified in water quality laws and regulations.
 - H. Coordinate resolution of water quality management issues that arise between the Forest Service and state agencies pertaining to water quality regulatory responsibilities.
 - I. Ecology will request input from the Forest Service during preparation of 305(b) reports, 303(d) lists, water quality standards review processes, and nonpoint source management plans.

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- J. Certify Forest Service Best Management Practices for water quality related management activities. It is Ecology's responsibility to certify that general water quality BMPs and current Forest Plans are consistent with the CWA. The certification process requires the comparison of state BMPs and Forest Service BMPs, a process for designing and implementing BMPs, and a process for addressing differences between the two sets of BMPs. The underlying evaluation criterion will be whether or not implementation of Forest Service BMPs is likely to result in meeting or exceeding water quality laws and regulations.
- 6.2 The state BMPs for forest practices are the water quality related forest practices rules (WAC 222) promulgated by the Washington Forest Practices Board. Non-forestry BMPs are those developed and accepted by Ecology and other agencies, and may or may not be codified (such as BMPs in the Natural Resource Conservation Service's Field Office Technical Guide).
- 6.3 When Ecology determines that Forest Service BMPs meet or exceed state-adopted BMPs, Ecology will certify the included Forest Service BMPs in a letter to the Regional Forester from the Ecology Water Quality Program Manager or designee. Ecology and the Forest Service will cooperatively develop a process and timeline for review of BMPs and certification. The agencies will review progress at the first Annual Meeting.
- 6.4 When Ecology or the Forest Service determines through BMP effectiveness monitoring that Forest Service BMPs are providing less resource protection than the adopted or approved state BMPs, the Forest Service will review the BMPs for amendment. Any proposed amendments to the Forest Service BMPs will be reviewed for certification by Ecology.
- 6.5 Ecology may certify other non-forestry related Forest Service BMPs on a case-by-case basis. Examples of these types of activities are grazing, vegetation management, special uses, recreation, or other activities with a potential for affecting water quality.

7. RESPONSIBILITY AND COORDINATION

The Director of Ecology and the Region 6 Regional Forester are the responsible officials for ensuring implementation of this Agreement. The Director of Ecology hereby assigns the primary responsibility to coordinate implementation of Ecology aspects of this MOA to the Water Quality Program Manager. The Forest Service Region 6 Regional Forester hereby assigns the primary responsibility to implement this MOA to the Forest Service Region 6 Director of Natural Resources.

8. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 8.1 Both agencies are committed to work together to meet the requirements of the CWA and other requirements. Should disputes arise, they will be resolved at the most local level possible. The local offices of each agency (either the Ranger District or Supervisor's Office for the Forest Service, and the Regional Office for Ecology) will outline the issue, describing the background, including a problem statement, what the issue is, why the issue is not resolved, a description of alternatives examined describing pros and cons, and a recommendation. They may request assistance from the Forest Service Regional Office, Ecology Headquarters, or both.

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- 8.2 If the above approach fails, the Forest Service Region 6 Director of Natural Resources and Ecology Water Quality Program Manager will assess the issue and describe a method(s) for resolution. They will meet with local staff for input and discussion.
- 8.3 Should the above approaches fail, the issue will be written up for the Region 6 Regional Forester and the Director of Ecology to discuss and resolve.
- 8.4 The Forest Service or Ecology may request assistance from other agencies or entities (such as EPA) at any step in the dispute resolution process.

9. ENFORCEMENT

Both agencies support the dispute resolution process, however, there may be times when conditions require immediate enforcement of water quality laws. Ecology reserves all of its authority to enforce state and federal laws concerning water quality, and nothing in this MOA shall be construed to limit that authority. Should the Forest Service fail to comply with state or federal laws concerning water quality, Ecology may use appropriate enforcement mechanisms under state or federal law to require compliance. This authority includes, but is not limited to, agency orders issued pursuant to RCW 90.48, and injunctive or other court-ordered relief, including penalties. When making a decision about enforcement, Ecology shall not be required to go through the dispute resolution process.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE

- 10.1 This MOA may be periodically revised, updated, or refined as necessary, by mutual written agreement by both the Forest Service and Ecology. This MOA will be reviewed, at a minimum of, every five years for amendment, renewal or termination by the Forest Service (USDA Forest Service Region 6 tracking number NFS 00-MU-11060000-025).
- 10.2 This MOA will remain in effect unless replaced by another MOA, terminated by mutual written consent of the parties, or canceled by 30 days' written notice from one party to the other party.
- 10.3 Both agencies are committed to acquiring the resources necessary to implement this MOA. Nothing in this MOA shall be construed to obligate either party to payment of money in excess of appropriations authorized by law and administratively available for the work. However, nothing in this MOA shall be construed as an agreement by either agency that lack of appropriations or funding excuses the other agency from compliance with any requirements of state or federal law.
- 10.4 This MOA will serve as the basis for any cooperative interagency job positions, or monitoring projects, that may be established to help fulfill the commitments herein.
- 10.5 Nothing in this MOA detracts from obligations of any other MOA by either agency, or restricts either agency from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, or individuals.

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- 10.6 This MOA is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document.
- 10.7 Pursuant to Section 22, Title 41, United States Code, no member of, or Delegate to, Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this agreement, or any benefits that may arise therefrom.
- 10.8 We, the undersigned officials responsible for implementing this MOA, hereby commit the necessary resources to the extent possible to effectively implement all aspects of this MOA.
- 10.9 We understand that successful implementation of the MOA will: 1) satisfy state and federal nonpoint source pollution control requirements; 2) ensure water quality protection on NFS lands, and 3) will constitute the basis for continuing formal designation by Ecology of the Forest Service as the implementing agency for nonpoint source pollution control on lands under its jurisdiction.
- 10.10 This Memorandum of Agreement shall take effect immediately upon signing. All undesignated time frames will begin as of the date of signing.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Harv Forsgren
Regional Forester
Pacific Northwest Region

Tom Fitzsimmons
Director

Date: _____

Date: _____

Attachment A: GOALS AND MILESTONES

I. Road Management Planning and Implementation Goals:

The Forest Service mechanism for managing the transportation system will be consistent with the forthcoming National Forest road management policy. As such, the Forest Service road system will be environmentally sound, affordable, and responsive to public needs. Science based roads analysis will be used to make informed decisions about the purpose and need for roads, and will identify the resources impacted by the system. Roads that are no longer needed will be decommissioned or converted to other uses. Roads that are to remain will be kept in a condition that meets the level of protection specified in WAC 222.

The Forest Service will assess the effects of roads on water quality to meet the requirements of WAC 222. A full range of road activities will be used to meet the level of protection of WAC 222. By 2015, Forest Service roads will be in a condition that will meet the level of protection of WAC 222.

- **5-Year Planning Schedule (see Section III of this Attachment for specifics):**

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| Year 1 | Forest Service road analysis process will begin. |
| Year 2 | 5-15% of watersheds statewide will have been analyzed to determine road-related water quality effects. |
| Year 3 | 20-30% of watersheds statewide will have been analyzed to determine road-related water quality effects. |
| Year 4 | 55-65% of watersheds statewide will have been analyzed to determine road-related water quality effects.
Statewide culvert inventory for fish passage will be completed. |
| Year 5 | 100% of Forest Service roads statewide will have completed road management plans based on road analysis or road assessment to determine water quality effects. Ecology and the Forest Service will review the results of the road management plans to validate and refine the following implementation schedule. |

- **15 Year Implementation Schedule (see Section III of this Attachment for specifics):**

Specific activities and timelines for measuring program accomplishment over each of the 15 years will be developed through Ecology regional office and individual National Forest coordination, and be adopted by the MOA Responsible Officials (or their designees) at the Annual Meeting.

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|-----------|---|
| Years 1-4 | Continue with current road stabilization efforts identified in Watershed Analysis & approved Access and Travel Management (ATM) Plans on a priority basis. |
| Year 5 | Complete 20%-30% of the road stabilization activities on a statewide basis. Begin road abandonment and decommissioning/restoration activities as a result of the completed road analysis process. |

Attachment A
Goals and Milestones

- Year 10 Complete 55% - 65% of the road stabilization activities on a statewide basis. All high priority road stabilization and other planned water quality related road remedies will be accomplished in all key watersheds as designated in the NWFP, all priority watersheds under PACFISH and INFISH, all special emphasis watersheds under the bull trout biological opinion, and restoration priority subbasins (A1 and A2), under the pending Columbia Basin Plan, or comparable, statewide. At least 75% of the stream crossings in key watersheds that restrict passage of life stages of anadromous species and bull trout, and which offer beneficial habitat gains when remedied, are repaired statewide.
- Year 15 All roads on Forest Service lands in Washington will meet the level of protection specified in Title 222 WAC. This MOA does not cover county roads, state roads, federal highways, or other roads on NFS lands for which the Forest Service does not have jurisdiction. Areas of jurisdiction will be clarified in annual meetings. Any needed clarifications may result in amendments to this MOA.

II. MOA Compliance:

On an annual basis, Ecology will evaluate Forest Service completion of the planning, activities, and milestones described in Attachment A. The process for making this determination will be as follows:

- A. April 1: USFS MOA Responsible Official will submit an annual Forest report that includes proposed road project and accomplishment to the Ecology MOA Responsible Official with a copy sent to respective Ecology regional offices. This report will describe completion of the activities and milestones defined in Attachment A for that particular year. The report will also include a proposal for the Section III activities and milestones for the upcoming two years.
- B. May: Annual Meeting will be held during the month of May to discuss accomplishment of the Section III activities for the previous year, the upcoming two years of Section III activities and milestones, CWA activities, and other Annual Meeting topics as described in the MOA.
- C. June 15: The Ecology MOA Responsible Official will send a written compliance determination and a discussion of CWA activities to the USFS MOA Responsible Official, based upon field review and/or evaluation of activities implemented to meet WAC 222 and other CWA requirements.
- D. June 30: The USFS and Ecology MOA Responsible Officials will agree in writing with the Section III activities and milestones for the upcoming two years.

III. Specific Forest Service Road Related Activities and Milestones:

The Forest Service MOA Responsible Official will provide a copy of each Forest's schedule of proposed activities to the Ecology MOA Responsible Official. Road maintenance priorities will

be developed annually based on specific resource conditions and user safety. Completed road maintenance work that meets the level of protection of WAC 222 will count towards accomplishment of milestones.

The purpose of this section is to document the details of the 5-year planning and 15-year implementation activities and milestone of requirements to meet WAC 222 and CWA. This section will be constructed in yearly increments through the Annual Meeting and MOA Compliance process described in Section II above. By June 30 of each year (with the exception of 2001 due to start-up), this Section will describe the specific planning and implementation activities expected to occur in the subsequent two years. The goals described in Section I above will provide the guidance for intermediate milestones along the 5-year and 15-year processes, but where there are discrepancies, the details specified in Section IIIa will prevail. This section will be reviewed and updated at each annual meeting. The dates identified in section IIIa are completion dates.

III(a) Outyear Planning and Implementation Activities

- *5-Year Planning Activities and Milestones:*
April 1, 2001 (Year 1):
 - A. Begin road analysis planning according to forthcoming Forest Service National Roads Management Policy.
 - B. Identify the National Forest, watershed and/or road systems where road analysis planning will be completed in Years 2 and 3.
- *15-Year Implementation Activities and Milestones:*
April 1, 2001 (Year 1):
 - A. All projects listed below are planned and scheduled for implementation through the NEPA process. Identify the National Forest, watershed and/or specific road systems where road stabilization is scheduled for completion in Year 2 and planned for completion in year 3.
 - B. Implement road stabilization by April 1,2001, as described below. Accomplished road maintenance which contributes to water quality protection (such as blading, ditch cleaning, brushing) will be reported annually beginning April 1, 2001.

7/27/00

Olympic National Forest - Road Projects to be Completed by December 2000

FS Road	From MP	To MP	Miles	Project Type
Rd. 2860000	0.43	0.45	0.02	Fill removal and stabilization
Rd. 2860000	0.00	4.90	4.90	Drainage maintenance - ditch and culvert cleaning
Rd. 2170030	0.00	2.00	2.00	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170080	0.00	0.81	0.81	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170083	0.00	0.25	0.25	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170110	0.00	1.51	1.51	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170120	0.00	1.00	1.00	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170130	0.00	1.26	1.26	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170131	0.00	1.57	1.57	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170170	0.00	1.31	1.31	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170180	0.00	0.91	0.91	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170190	0.00	0.40	0.40	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170192	0.00	0.25	0.25	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170310	0.00	0.80	0.80	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2170340	0.00	0.97	0.97	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2160000	4.90	12.00	7.50	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2160230	0.00	0.60	0.59	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2220120	0.00	4.86	4.86	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2220023	0.00	0.19	0.19	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2220129	0.00	0.70	0.70	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2204070	0.00	2.75	2.75	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2204072	0.00	0.94	0.94	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2204073	0.00	0.52	0.52	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2204076	0.00	0.43	0.43	Drainage and stabilization
Rd. 2204079	0.00	1.13	1.13	Drainage and stabilization

Gifford Pinchot National Forest

<i>Project Type</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Miles</i>
Bridge Installation (fish passage)	Road 78	0.1
Bridge Installation	Road 2329	0.1
Bridge replacement	Road 54	0.1
Culvert Replacement	Road 9000	0.1
Culvert Replacement	Road 8831	0.1
Culvert upgrade	Road 42	0.1
Culvert upgrade	Road 32	0.1
Road Construction (County Road)	Road 51	5.1
Reconstruction	Road 7802	0.3
Reconstruction	Road 4725023	1.0
Reconstruction	Road 4725	0.1
Reconstruction	Road 4720	1.0
Reconstruction	Road 2816	0.1
Reconstruction	Road 29	3.2
Reconstruction	Road 2900115	1.6
Reconstruction	Road 2900116	2.7
Reconstruction	Road 7605	3.6
Reconstruction	Road 7713	0.3
Reconstruction	Road 2304	1.2
Reconstruction	Road 6030	0.2
Reconstruction	Roads 8040 & 8040500	4.5
Reconstruction	Road 83	0.5
Stabilize/Close	Road 2900149	1.0
Stabilize/Close	Road 2130 spurs	9.2
Stabilize/Close	Road 2516043	0.4
Decommissioning	Road 2500210	0.2
Decommissioning	Road 2130044	0.4
Decommissioning	Road 4610 and spurs	4.7
Decommissioning	Road 2900116	0.1
Decommissioning	Road 7700126	0.4
Decommissioning	Road 1256077	0.8
Decommissioning	Road 7106095	0.7
Decommissioning	Road 7708	2.9
Decommissioning	Road 2130 and spurs	2.9
Decommissioning	Road 7713and spurs	3.5
Decommissioning	Road 2800098	2.3
Decommissioning	Road 2800099	1.0
Decommissioning	Road 2818	0.3
Decommissioning	Road 2510 and spurs	4.8
Decommissioning	Road 2911	2.7
Decommission	Road 2562540	2.3
Decommission	Road 5100 & spurs 1	4.3
Decommission	Following Group	11.6
	Road 62 & spurs	
	Road 30 spurs	
	Road 60 spurs	
	Road 6052 spurs	
	Road 64 spurs	
	Road 67 spurs	

Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest

<i>Project Type</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Miles</i>
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 3600	6.9
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 3620	2.5
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 3630	3.0
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 3065	1.9
Culvert replacement	Road 3045010	0.1
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 1610	9.8
Decommissioning treatment	Road 28	1.3
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 41	2.7
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 6554	8.1
Decommissioning treatment	Road 6554	2.3
Reconstruction/drainage upgrade	Road 6554610	0.6
Decommissioning treatment	Road 6554910	1.0
Decommissioning treatment	Road 6574	1.0
Decommissioning treatment	Road 5510160	0.4
Decommissioning treatment	Road 5510430	0.2
Decommissioning treatment	Road 5510431	0.3
Decommissioning treatment	Road 5510465	0.3
Decommissioning treatment	Road 5510560	0.2
Decommissioning treatment	Road 7010410	0.5
Decommissioning treatment	Road 7010510	0.5
Decommissioning treatment	Road 7160310	0.4
Decommissioning treatment	Road 7160510	0.2
Stabilize/Close	Road 7500145	0.3
Stabilize/Close	Road 7500210	0.8
Decommissioning treatment	Road 7500226	0.5
Stabilize/Close	Road 7500301	0.6
Stabilize/Close	Road 7500550	0.8

Wenatchee National Forest

Echo Ridge Road Improvements

An analysis to determine the effects of improving the road to Echo Ridge Nordic Area by widening it to provide for safe winter driving needs.

T28N, R22E, Sec 10-11

Contact: Lisa Therrell, Chelan Ranger District (509) 682-2576

Scoping Began: 6/00

Estimated Decision Date: 9/00

Swakane Canyon and Adjacent Columbia River-facing Drainages Ecosystem Restoration Project

Analysis of vegetation and road conditions on forested and non-forested areas within the Swakane Canyon watershed is being expanded to include adjacent drainages that face the Columbia River.

Attachment A
Goals and Milestones

Proposed actions in this area could include commercial timber sales, non-commercial thinning of conifer or hardwood vegetation, existing road reconstruction, obliteration or closure, new road construction, and underburning.

T25N, R19E, Sec 22, 26, 27, 34, 35

T24N, R19E, Sec 1-2, 12-13, 24

T24N, R20E, Sec 1-12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 28, 30 T25N, R20E, Sec 26, 31, 34, 35

Contact: Matt Dahlgreen, Entiat Ranger District (509) 784-1511

Scoping Began: 1/98

Estimated Decision Date: 12/00

Upper Canyon Road #6404-511 and Beaver Pond Restoration

This project will repair erosion occurring along a brushed-in road spur #6404-511. Damage is occurring from current beaver activity upslope, which moves water over the road prism, downslope into beaver ponds. The plan is to remove three culverts, rip/decommission one mile of road, and plant aspen/cedar/willow in the wetlands. Signs will be placed describing the project, and future proposals for this road system. This project is within the White River drainage, and inside the Little Wenatchee Late Successional Reserve.

T28N, R15E, Sec 13 (SW 1/4), Sec 24 (NE 1/4)

Contact: Daniel Rife/ Heather Murphy, Lake Wenatchee Ranger District (509) 763-3103 ext. 222/ 221

Scoping Began: 2/99

Estimated Decision Date: 9/00

Sears Creek Road #6404

Decommissioning/Floodplain Restoration/Interpretive Trail Construction. This project would remove the last 0.75 miles of Road #6404 to restore the floodplain function to natural conditions, which would decrease damage from high flow floods. Includes reestablishing access to 0.5 miles of old oxbow habitat to provide high quality salmon and steelhead habitat. An additional 1.2 miles of Road 6404 would be converted to trail. A wetland interpretive trail would be constructed to, and along, a beaver pond system. The trail would cover an additional 0.8 miles in addition to the road-to-trail conversion. The interpretive trail would include stops in old growth, plantation, and wetland/beaver pond areas. This project is within the White River drainage, and inside the Little Wenatchee LSR.

T28N, R15E, Sec 12, 13, 18

Contact: Daniel Rife/Heather Murphy, Lake Wenatchee Ranger District (509) 763-3103 ext. 222/ 221

Scoping Began: 10/99

Estimated Decision Date: 10/00

Ruby Tie Spur Share Cost

Enter into Share Cost Agreement with Longview Fibre on an existing road.

T22N, R18E, Sec 8

Contact: Bill Hartl, Leavenworth Ranger District

Scoping Began: 4/00

Decision Signed: 5/26/00

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Jumpoff Spur Share Cost

Enter into Share Cost Agreement with Washington State Department of Natural Resources on an existing road.

T21N, R20E, Sec 24

Contact: Bob Stoehr, Leavenworth Ranger District

Scoping Begins: 7/00

Estimated Decision Date: 5/01

Iron Thin Forest Health Project

This project involves locating vegetated areas requiring treatment, and prescribing sufficient management tools to make landscape level change in fire susceptibility, while maintaining and enhancing forest late-successional conditions. There is the potential for road closures and road decommissioning in this project.

Blue, Hovey, Iron, and Swauk Creeks in the Swauk Drainage

T21N, R17E, Sec 1-24

T21N, R18E, Sec 4-7, 13, 18

T22N, R17E, Sec 32-34

Contact: Bryce Cotton, Cle Elum RD (509) 674-4411

Scoping Began: 11/99

Estimated Decision Date: 1/01

Alternatives are being developed.

North Fork Teanaway Camp Site 21 Restoration

The project proposes to obliterate a segment of road that enters the floodplain and circles a wetland. Campsites outside of the riparian reserve would be delineated, and disturbed ground rehabilitated with native plants.

North Fork Teanaway

T22N, R15E, Sec 14

Contact: Tina Mayo, Cle Elum RD (509) 674-4411

Scoping Began: 1/00

Estimated Decision Date: 7/00

Field survey work is being completed. Biological assessments are being prepared.

Elderberry Timber Sale

Implementation of dry site management which will result in removal of approximately 4.8 MMBF of timber utilizing existing road system with proposals for some road obliteration and motorized vehicle seasonal closures.

Bear Canyon-Oak Creek

T14N, R15E, Sec 2, 4, 8, 10, 16, 20

T14N, R14E, Sec 1, 11-14

Contact: John Durkee, Cle Elum RD (509) 653-2205 ext. 254

Scoping Began: 1989

Estimated Decision Date: 7/00

Environmental assessment public review completed.

Rattle Timber Sale

Implementation of dry site management and access travel changes (road closure or obliteration) and noxious weed control.

Rattlesnake/Little Rattlesnake

T15N, R14E

T15N, R13E, Sec 1-2, 12

Contact: Jodi Leingang, Naches Ranger District (509) 653-2205 ext. 269

Scoping Begins: 11/99

Estimated Decision Date: 1/01

Canteen Timber Sale

Implementation of dry site management, access travel changes (road closure or obliteration), and noxious weed control.

Mt. Clemans, Wenas Creek, Rock Creek, Benton Creek

T16N, R15E

T17N, R15E

Contact: John Durkee, Naches Ranger District (509) 653-2205 ext. 254

Scoping Begins: 10/99

Estimated Decision Date: 9/01

Okanogan National Forest

TONASKET RANGER DISTRICT

Conger Integrated Resource Project

Commercial and pre-commercial thinning to reduce susceptibility to insects and disease, accelerate growth of residual stands, and accelerate development of late and old structure in mixed conifer. Prescribed fire to reduce in-growth of Douglas fir, control stand density, and reduce ladder fuels. Prescribed fire of rangeland will be used to reduce mountain big sagebrush and increase forage production. Road closures to meet Forest Plan standards and guidelines; proposed road closures include 3700-200, 400, 435, 515, 599, 500, 550, 600 and 310. Decrease potential for noxious weed spread, reduce impacts to water quality and increase wildlife security. Integrated noxious weed management, including use of herbicides; 2.0-6.0 MMBF on 2,000-5,000 acres. Project is located in the West and South Forks of Salmon Creek, T36N, R23-24E, and T35N, R23-24E. Forest Plan: 5, 25; PACFISH. Scoping is completed. EA public review completed. Decision expected 7/00. Implementation expected 9/00. EA/DN. Contact Paul Nash, (509) 486-5153.

Mutton Integrated Resource Project

Proposed action includes silviculture treatments of approximately 87 acres of hazard tree removal and other treatments in Cottonwood, Salmon Meadows, Sugarloaf, Kerr and Oriole Campgrounds; 600 acres of pre-commercial thinning; 648 acres of timber harvest outside of campgrounds; 75 acres of herbicide treatments; and up to 11,000 acres of landscape scale fuels treatments. Road closures to meet Forest Plan standards and guidelines, decrease potential of noxious weed spread, reduce impacts to water quality, and increase wildlife security will be considered. Volume approximately 2.0 MMBF. Project located in

Attachment A
Goals and Milestones

North Fork of Salmon Creek, Pelican Creek, Dunn Creek, Buckhorn Creek, Schalow Mtn, Middle Mtn and Funk Mtn. areas, T36N, R24E, Sections 1-5, 7-18, and 20-25; T36N, R25E, Sections 19-21, 27-30, 33, 34; T37N, R24E, Sections 28-34. PACFISH. Scoping began 12/99. EA out for public review 9/00. Decision expected 10/00. Implementation expected 3/01. EA/DN. Contact Phil Christy, (509) 486-5137.

Summit Integrated Resources Project

Use prescribed fire and commercial silvicultural treatments to reduce disease and insect infected trees, improve long term deer winter range, improve security for bighorn sheep, maintain or promote development of late/old structure (LOS) habitats, reduce natural fuels and rehabilitate the transportation system within the analysis area. 2-4.0 MMBF. Project is located in Mt. Block from Summit Lake, Haley Mtn south and west to Forest boundary, T39N, R28E, Sections 7, 8, 15-22; T39N, R27E, Sections 12, 13, 24. Forest Plan: 5, 11, 25, 26; PACFISH. Scoping to begin 7/00. EA out for public review 10/00. Decision expected 11/00. Implementation expected 10/01. EA/DN. Contact Michael Alvarado, (509) 486-5117.

Upper Aeneas/Peony Integrated Resource Project

Proposed action includes silvicultural treatments of approximately 2,500-3,500 acres with up to 4.9 miles of road construction; introduction of fire into fire-adapted ponderosa pine and larch stands across 6,700 acres. Overall road densities would be reduced through road closures ranging from 14.5-32.5 miles; 12.5 miles of road obliteration. Peony Seed Orchard Buffer project analyzed as part of project. Project located in Sections 1-28, T35N, R29E and Sections 8-33, T36N, R29E, near Peony, Cole, Bench, and Aeneas creeks. Forest Plan: 14, 25, 26; INFISH, PACFISH. Scoping began 12/99. EA expected for public review 8/00. Decision expected 9/00. Implementation expected 11/00. EA/DN. Contact Phil Christy, (509) 486-5137.

METHOW RANGER DISTRICT

Hungry Hunter Integrated Resource Project

This project is designed to reduce fire risk in order to protect the public, protect late successional habitat in the Hunter Mountain and Sawtooth LSR, and to demonstrate restorative forestry techniques. The project focuses on fuel reduction using thinning and prescribed fire, noxious weed treatments, road management, wildlife habitat management, and monitoring and research for future application of restoration techniques. It includes 4,000 acres of prescribed fire; 2,500 acres of commercial thinning by timber sale; and 3,500 acres of pre-commercial thinning. No new roads will be constructed; reconstruction includes 4.0 miles. Twelve miles of road are planned to be closed, and four miles of road obliterated. The project is located in the Squaw Creek and McFarland Creek drainages; T30N, R21-21E. Forest Plan: MA 14, 25, 26; NWFP: LSR, Matrix. Hungry Ridge Roadless Area. Scoping began 6/00. EA expected for public review 9/00. Decision expected 10/00. Implementation expected Spring 2001. EA/DN. Contact Arlo Vanderwoude; (509) 997-9749.

Fawn Timber Sale

Project involves pine restoration on approximately 1,500 acres in Fawn Creek/Grizzly Mountain area. Estimate 3.3 MMBF; no new roads, 2 miles reconstructed roads. Project is in T35N, R20E, Sections 1-3, 10-14; T36N, R20E, Sections 21-22, 26-29, 32-35. Forest Plan: 5, 14, 25; NWFP: LSR, Matrix, Key Watershed. Scoping is completed. Analysis underway. EA expected for public review 8/00. Decision

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expected 9/00. Implementation expected Fall 2000. EA/DN. Contact Arlo VanderWoude; (509) 997-2131.

Cub Creek Road Closures

Close some system and non-system roads in the Cub Creek drainage, six miles northwest of Winthrop, Washington; T36N, R20-21E. Forest Plan: 14, 25; NWFP: Matrix, Key Watershed. Scoping began 8/98. Completing analysis. EA currently in public review; comments due back 8/--/00. Decision expected 8/00. Implementation expected Fall 2000. EA/DN. Contact Jennifer Zbyszewski; (509) 996-4021.

Roads End Campground Limited Use

Limit access to Roads End Campground to protect threatened, endangered, or sensitive species habitat during a critical season period. Project involves installing a gate on Road 4440 west of the North Creek Trailhead to limit access to the campground from 9/1 through 5/1 of the next year, annually. Closure involves 0.6 miles; T34N, R18E, Section 11. Forest Plan: MA-32; NWFP: LSR, Riparian Reserve, Key Watershed. Scoping to begin 7/00. Decision expected 8/00. Implementation expected 9/00. CE/No Decision Document Required. Contact Jennifer Molesworth; (509) 996-4010.

Colville National Forest

1. Lone Deer Cr. watershed - closure of 29 miles of system and non-system roads. Closure involves obliteration at ends of road segments, pulling culverts, reestablishment of channel drainage, pulling back and revegetating oversteepened cutslopes, ripping and revegetation of the road surface and placement of slash on fill slopes. Reconstruction of 7 miles of existing roads which includes rocking and improving drainage. Removal of cattle trough from riparian area to upland site.
2. Deemer Cr. watershed - rocking of eroding drainage dips on 0.5 miles of formerly closed road.
3. Le Clerc Cr. watershed - approximately 2.5 miles of road relocated out of riparian area. Existing bypassed segment will be rehabilitated over the next two years. The removal of two culverts, reestablishment of the channel and revegetation of problem cut and fill slopes will be completed by December 2000. In addition, two existing cattle stream crossings will be armored and several miles of worm and barbed-wire fence will be built to protect overutilized streambanks and riparian vegetation.
4. Sullivan Cr. watershed - existing toilets within the riparian area to be moved to upland sites.
5. Lambert Cr. watershed - to repair earlier flood damage, structures will be placed instream to move channel away from a very erosive slope and roadbed.
6. S. Fork Mill Cr. watershed - armoring of existing cattle stream crossings and riparian fencing to protect overutilized streambanks and riparian vegetation.

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Goals and Milestones

7. Tonata Cr. watershed - closure of 19 miles of system and non-system roads. Closure involves obliteration at ends of road segments, pulling culverts, reestablishment of channel drainage, pulling back and revegetating oversteepened cutslopes, ripping and revegetation of the road surface and placement of slash on fill slopes. Reconstruction of 28 miles of existing roads which includes rocking and improving drainage.
8. Half Moon Cr. - install grade control structures on inlet to Half Moon Lake to reduce head cutting.
9. S. Fork Sherman Cr. watershed - tree seedlings planted in riparian areas to increase shading and reduce high summer water temperatures.
10. Sherman Cr. watershed - replacement of flood damaged bridge with new structure. Revegetation of flood damaged streambanks.
11. Byers Cr. watershed - fencing of riparian areas to protect overutilized streambanks and riparian vegetation.
12. Nancy Cr. watershed - continuation of gabion construction and revegetation of cutslopes to avoid soil movement from road prism into the stream.
13. Bracken Cr. watershed - revegetation of cut and fill slopes damaged by past flooding.

2000 Road Engineering Projects in Washington

Umatilla Forest

Pomeroy Ranger District, 71 West Main Street, Pomeroy, WA 99347
509-843-1891

Project Name	Description	Size	County State Legal Description	Status	Contact Name
Upper Charley Ecosystem Restoration Projects EIS	The National Forest portion of the Charley Creek subwatershed will be analyzed for potential multiple resource management opportunities including fish restoration, timber management, prescribed fire, recreation, wildlife, etc.	Analysis Area -- 7,650 ac.	Garfield Co. WA T.8N., R.42E., Sec. 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 33, 34, 35, & 36	Expect Decision Summer/Fall 2000	Randall Walker
Road 4200040 Restoration CE	Some base rock placement, removal of relief culverts and replacement with armored drain dips, removal and replacement of degrading culverts, removal of road ditch and outcropping of road.	5.327 kil./ 3.3 mi.	Garfield Co. WA. T.9N., R.42E., Sec. 1, 2, & 11	Decision Signed 4/2/2000	Lonnie Ruchert
Road 40 Reconstruction EA	Propose to repair and improve unsafe and degrading sections of a forest arterial. Work would include reconditioning of existing road surfaces, removal of hazard trees, improvement of road drainage facilities, establishment of standard road widths through narrow sections, constructing additional turnouts, and stabilizing cut and fill slopes.	14.18 km (8.81 mi.)	Garfield & Asotin Co. WA. T.7N., R.43E., Sec. 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 29; T.8N., R.43E., Sec. 31	Analysis – Expect Decision Fall 2000	Lonnie Ruchert
Lower Wenatchee Trail #3137 CE	Relocate several sections of Trail #3137 that are currently too close to “threatened” ESA (Endangered Species Act) fish habitat.	12,000 linear feet	Asotin Co. WA. T.7N., R.43E., Sec. 11, 14, 23, 26	Scoping	Rich Martin
Sheep Creek Trailhead Reconstruction/ Restoration CE	Relocate Tucannon Trailhead and remove Sheep Creek culvert for fish habitat migration improvement. Improvements will include trailhead parking area and recreation facilities.	½ ac.	Columbia Co. WA. T.8N., R.41E., Sec. 12	Decision signed 7/5/00	Del Groat

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Project Name	Description	Size	County State Legal Description	Status	Contact Name
FY 2000 Road Obliteration/ Decommissioning CE	Obliterate or decommission roads no longer needed for resource management. Most of the roads are located within old timber sale areas and will be obliterated or decommissioned with timber sale KV funds. Obliteration would be accomplished by one, or a combination, of the following methods: recontouring of the roadway by retrieval of fill material; subsoiling/ scarification to reduce compaction and enhance vegetative recovery; camouflaging by placing native materials, such as root wads, logs, and rocks, and restoring native vegetation.	Approx. 5 mi. of transportation system roads and 13 mi. of unclassified roads.	Garfield Co. WA. Within the Big Spring, Huck Butte, Sawmill, Teal, and Warner timber sale areas, and near Kelly Camp.	Scoping & Analysis. Expect Decision Summer /Fall 2000	Lonnie Ruchert

Attachment A
Goals and Milestones

Walla Walla Ranger District, 1415 West Rose, Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 522-6290

Project Name	Description	Size	Legal Description	Status	Contact Name
64 Rd. NF Touchet Paving <u>EA</u>	Improve drainage, minor reconstruction, pave road from Co. Rd. to 6400650 (Ski Bluewood)	7.5 mi.	Columbia Co. WA, T.7&8N., R.40E.	Consultation Expect Decision <u>10/00</u>	Dennis Sedam
Touchet Corral and North Touchet Snowmobile Trail Reconstruction <u>EA</u>	<u>Replace three bridges, construct crossdrains, reconstruct 500 feet of steep slope. Replace existing culvert under Forest Road 6400650 with bridge to allow snowmobile and groomer passage. Provide drainage under snowmobile trail for springs.</u>	<u>3 mi.</u>	Columbia Co. WA. T.7N., R.40E., Sec. 2, 17, 18, 20	<u>Expect Decision Spring 2001</u>	<u>Glen Westlund</u>
Chase-Griffin Snowmobile Trail Improvements <u>EA</u>	Replace existing culvert under road 6400650. Provide drainage under trail for springs. <u>Analyzed with the Touchet Corral Trail Project</u>	Sites on ½ mile of trail.	Columbia Co. WA. T.7N., R.40E., Sec. 7, 18	Expect Decision Spring '01	Steve Anderson
Ongoing Road Maintenance	Ongoing road maintenance consists of the following items on at least a yearly basis: blading, ditch cleaning, culvert inspection and cleaning (hand and machine), roadside brushing, log out and opening of roads, ditch repair, installation of culverts, drain dips, low water fords, cattleguards signs, gates and barricades, placing of crushed rock, pit run for surface stabilization and drain rock, riprap for slope protection and stabilization, seeding and fertilizing for slope stabilization, maintenance or slope protection structures, hauling of slough and slide material, paving of bridge approaches.				

Attachment B: FOREST SERVICE AND ECOLOGY PLANNING
AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

Forest Service or Federal Documents

Clean Water Action Plan (Including Unified Watershed Assessment).

Executive Order 13148.

Forest Ecosystem Management Team [FEMAT]. 1993. Forest ecosystem management: An ecological, economic, and social assessment. Portland, Oregon, and Washington DC: USDA Forest Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project [ICBEMP]. 1998. Economic and social conditions of communities: Economic and social characteristics for interior Columbia Basin communities and an estimation of effects on communities from the alternatives of the Eastside and Upper Columbia River Basin Draft Environmental Impact Statements. BLM/OR/WA/PT-98/006-1792. Portland, Oregon: USDI Bureau of Land Management.

Pronsolino v. Marcus, et.al., 91 F.Supp 2d 1337 (N.D. Cal., March 30, 2000).

U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA] Forest Service and U.S. Department of Interior [USDI] Bureau of Land Management. 1999. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Protocol for Addressing Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Waters. Version 2.0. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Regional Office. Portland, Oregon.

U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA], Forest Service; and U.S. Department of Interior [USDI], Bureau of Land Management [BLM]. 1995. Decision notice/decision record, FONSI, environmental assessment, and appendices for the implementation of Interim Strategy for Managing Anadromous Fish-producing Watersheds in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, and Portions of California [PACFISH]).

U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA], Forest Service; and U.S. Department of the Interior [USDI], Bureau of Land Management [BLM]. 1995. Record of decision for amendments to Forest Service and BLM planning documents within the range of the northern spotted owl [Northwest Forest Plan]. Portland, Oregon: U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of the Interior, [and others].

U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA] Forest Service. 1995. Inland native fish strategy environmental assessment decision notice and findings of no significant impact: Interim strategies for managing fish-producing watersheds in eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, western Montana, and portions of Nevada [INFISH]. Intermountain, Northern, and Pacific Northwest Regions.

U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA], Forest Service. 1988. General water quality best management practices. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region. Portland, Oregon.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Guidance Document for Listing Waterbodies in the Region 10 Section 303(d) Program.

Ecology Documents

Washington State Department of Ecology. 1997. Chapter 173-201A WAC: Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the state of Washington.

1998 §303(d) Listing of Impaired Water Bodies.

Forests and Fish Report (April 29, 1999).

Washington's Plan to Control Nonpoint Pollution.

Attachment C: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ROAD STABILIZATION:

Road stabilization consists of a broad range of activities to be used to implement WAC 222. Activities include the implementation of short-term measures such as waterbars, sidecast pullback, and road closures. Stabilization can also include long-term measures such as road decommissioning and reconstruction to meet current standards. All these activities are used to place a road into a condition where the delivery of pollutants to waterbodies is minimized.

Ecology equivalent is "maintenance"

ROAD ABANDONMENT:

Road abandonment is the removal of a road from drivable status, and left in a condition where it has maintenance-free drainage.

Forest Service equivalent is decommissioning or Level 1 maintenance-closed/stored.

ROAD MAINTENANCE:

Road maintenance consists of road treatments and related activities that comply with WAC 222-24-050 and any emergency rules that prevent impairment of water quality and beneficial uses.

Forest Service upgrading and stormproofing is included here.

WATERSHED:

Geographic areas delineated per the federal protocol for hydrologic units. Watersheds are the 5th level of the hydrologic unit hierarchy.

Attachment D: AGENCY CONTACTS

Forest Service

MOA Responsible Official: Region 6 Director of Natural Resources

Department of Ecology

MOA Responsible Official: Water Quality Program Manager

Regional Office Forest Practices Contacts

Regional Office Spill Response Contacts

Attachment E: Title 222 WAC EXCERPTS

The new forest practices emergency rules adopted by the Forest Practice Board on January 20, 2000 became effective on March 20, 2000. Pursuant to ESHB2091, the new emergency rules will be effective until June 30, 2001 or until new permanent rules are adopted, whichever is sooner. They replace current permanent forest practice rules for the sections listed in Title 222 WAC.

The WAC excerpts listed in this Attachment are provided for information only. All references to Title 222 WAC in this MOA refer to those rules contained in Title 222 WAC that pertain to water quality protection, which are marked with an asterisk, pursuant to WAC 222-12-010, and as may be amended in the future.

Title 222 WAC will serve as the benchmark for Forest Service road maintenance and abandonment goals and activities, as described below:

The new Washington Forest Practices Rules require forest roads to be brought up to state standards and maintained in a condition that will not cause damage to public resources. The rules pertaining to forest roads are contained in Chapter 222-24 WAC.

WAC 222-24-010 Policy

(1) A well designed, located, constructed, and maintained system of forest roads is essential to forest management and protection of the public resources. To protect water quality, aquatic, and riparian habitat, roads must be constructed and maintained in a manner that will prevent potential or actual damage to public resources. Forest roads should be constructed and maintained as to not result in the delivery of sediment and surface water to any typed water in amounts, at times, or by means that preclude achieving desired fish habitat and water quality, including restoring and maintaining passage for fish in all life stages. This includes retaining streams in their natural drainages and routing subsurface flow captured by roads and road ditches back onto the forest floor. The road construction and maintenance rules in this chapter assist in achieving these goals, along with the BMPs in the board manual Section 3. If these goals are not achieved using the applied BMPs, additional management strategies must be employed to protect public resources.

WAC 222-24-050 Road Maintenance

The goals for road maintenance are established in WAC 222-24-010. All forest roads must be improved and maintained to the standards of this chapter within 15 years of the effective date of these rules. Guidelines for how to meet these goals and standards are in the board manual, Section 3. Work performed toward meeting the standards must generally be even flow over the 15-year period with priorities for achieving the most benefit to public resources early in the period. Replacement will not be required for existing culverts functioning with little risk to public resources or culverts installed under an approved forest practices application or notification if they have been properly maintained and are capable of passing fish, until the end of the culvert's functional life.

(1) **Road maintenance and abandonment plan.** All forest roads must be maintained to meet road construction standards in Chapter 222-24 WAC within 15 years of the effective date of this rule.

WAC 222-24-051 Road Maintenance Schedule

All forest roads must be covered under a road maintenance and abandonment plan within 5 years of the effective date of this rule or 2005. This includes all roads that were constructed or used for forest

practices after 1974. Inventory and assessment of orphan roads must be included in the road maintenance and abandonment plans as specified in WAC 222-24-052(4) below.

WAC 222-24-052 Maintenance for specific roads and structures.

(4) **Orphaned roads.** An orphaned road is a road or railroad grade that the forest landowner has not used for forest practices activities since 1974. Many of these roads are overgrowing or closed off, but have not satisfied the abandonment process.

(a) The landowner in conjunction with the road maintenance and abandonment plan must complete an inventory and assessment of the risk to public resources or public safety.

(b) Five years after the effective date of this rule, when the extent of any problems associated with the orphaned roads is known, the hazard-reduction statute will be evaluated to determine if it is still needed and if funds for cost-sharing are needed to effect repair or abandonment of orphan roads.

(c) Landowners are not obligated under this rule to repair or abandon such roads before the end of the five-year period, but they can voluntarily take this action.